

REMARKS

Receipt of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed October 16, 2003 is acknowledged. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 101 and 104 are currently being amended.

Claims 106-111 are being added. The new claims are supported generally throughout the specification and original claims, e.g., on page 24, lines 17-21.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 48, 101, 104 and 106-111 are now pending in this application.

It is respectfully submitted that the claim amendments comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.121 and as such, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the present claim amendments in conjunction with the arguments set forth in the response filed September 25, 2003.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to

Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Nov. 4, 2003

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